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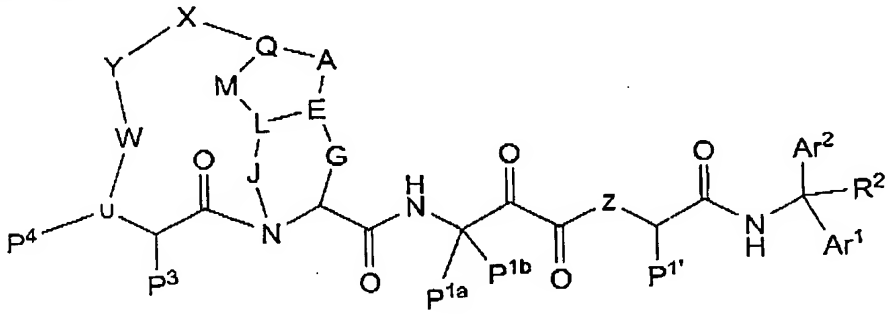
Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A compound, including enantiomers, stereoisomers, rotomers and tautomers of said compound, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates or derivatives thereof, with said compound having the general structure shown in Formula I:



Formula I

wherein:

X and Y are independently selected from the moieties: alkyl, alkyl-aryl, heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, aryl-heteroaryl, alkyl-heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, alkyl ether, alkyl-aryl ether, aryl ether, alkyl amino, aryl amino, alkyl-aryl amino, alkyl thio, alkyl-aryl thio, aryl thio, alkyl sulfone, alkyl-aryl sulfone, aryl sulfone, alkyl-alkyl sulfoxide, alkyl-aryl sulfoxide, alkyl amide, alkyl-aryl amide, aryl amide, alkyl sulfonamide, alkyl-aryl sulfonamide, aryl sulfonamide, alkyl urea, alkyl-aryl urea, aryl urea, alkyl carbamate, alkyl-aryl carbamate, aryl carbamate, alkyl-hydrazide, alkyl-aryl hydrazide, alkyl hydroxamide, alkyl-aryl hydroxamide, alkyl sulfonyl, aryl sulfonyl, heteroalkyl sulfonyl, heteroaryl sulfonyl, alkyl carbonyl, aryl carbonyl, heteroalkyl carbonyl, heteroaryl carbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, heteroarylaminocarbonyl or a combination thereof, with the proviso that X and Y may optionally be additionally substituted with X^{11} or X^{12}:

X^{11} is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, alkylheteroaryl, or heteroarylalkyl, with the proviso that X^{11} may be additionally optionally substituted with X^{12};

X^{12} is hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, thio, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonamido, arylsulfonamido, carboxy, carbalkoxy, carboxamido, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkylureido, arylureido, halogen, cyano, or nitro, with the proviso that said alkyl, alkoxy, and aryl may be additionally optionally substituted with moieties independently selected from X^{12};

W may be present or absent, and if W is present, W is selected form C=O, C=S, or SO_2;

Q may be present or absent, and when Q is present, Q is CH, N, P, $(CH_2)_p$, $(CHR)_p$, $(CRR')_p$, O, RNR, S, or SO_2; and when Q is absent, M is also absent, A is directly linked to X;

A is O, CH_2, $(CHR)_p$, $(CHR\text{-}CHR')_p$, $(CRR')_p$, NR, S, SO_2 or a bond;

U is selected form O, N, or CH;

E is CH, N or CR, or a double bond towards A, L or G;

G may be present or absent, and when G is present, G is $(CH_2)_p$, $(CHR)_p$, or $(CRR')_p$; and when G is absent, J is present and E is directly connected to the carbon atom where G was connected to;

J may be absent or present, and when J is present, J is $(CH_2)_p$, $(CHR)_p$, or $(CRR')_p$, SO_2, NH, NR or O; and when J is absent, G is present and L is directly linked to nitrogen;

L may be present or absent, and when L is present, L is CH, CR, O, S or NR; and when L is absent, then M may be absent or present, and if M is present with L being absent, then M is directly and independently linked to E, and J is directly and independently linked to E;

M may be present or absent, and when M is present, M is O, NR, S, SO_2, $(CH_2)_p$, $(CHR)_p$, $(CHR\text{-}CHR')_p$, or $(CRR')_p$;

p is a number from 0 to 6;

R and R' are independently selected from the group consisting of H; C1-C10 alkyl; C2-C10 alkenyl; C3- C8 cycloalkyl; C3-C8 heterocycloalkyl,

alkoxy, aryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, amido, cyano, nitro; (cycloalkyl)-alkyl and (heterocycloalkyl)alkyl, wherein said cycloalkyl is made of three to eight carbon atoms, and zero to six oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, or phosphorus atoms, and said alkyl is of one to six carbon atoms; aryl; heteroaryl; alkyl-aryl; and alkyl-heteroaryl; with said alkyl, heteroalkyl, alkenyl, heteroalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocycloalkyl moieties may be optionally substituted, with said term "substituted" referring to optional and suitable substitution with one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, halogen, hydroxy, thio, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, amido, cyano, nitro, sulfonamido; and

P^{1a}, P^{1b}, $P^{1'}$ and P^{3} are independently selected from:

H; C1-C10 straight or branched chain alkyl; C2-C10 straight or branched chain alkenyl; C3-C8 cycloalkyl, C3-C8 heterocyclic; (cycloalkyl)alkyl or (heterocyclyl)alkyl , wherein said cycloalkyl is made up of 3 to 8 carbon atoms, and zero to 6 oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, or phosphorus atoms, and said alkyl is of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, or heteroarylalkyl, wherein said alkyl is of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl; (cycloalkyl)alkyl and (heterocyclyl)alkyl moieties may be optionally substituted with R", and further wherein said P^{1a} and P^{1b} may optionally be joined to each other to form a spirocyclic or spiroheterocyclic ring, with said spirocyclic or spiroheterocyclic ring containing zero to six oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, or phosphorus atoms, and may be additionally optionally substituted with R";

R" is hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, thio, alkylthio, arylthio, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonamido, arylsulfonamido, carboxy, carbalkoxy, carboxamido, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkylureido, arylureido, halogen, cyano, or nitro moiety, with the proviso that the alkyl, alkoxy, and aryl may be additionally optionally substituted with moieties independently selected from R";

Z is O, NH or NR"';

R''' is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, alkylheteroaryl, or heteroarylalkyl moiety, with the proviso that R''' may be additionally optionally substituted with R'';

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from phenyl; 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl or their corresponding N-oxides; 2-thiophenyl; 3-thiophenyl; 2-furanyl; 3-furanyl; 2-pyrrolyl; 3-pyrrolyl; 2-imidazolyl; 3(4)-imidazolyl; 3-(1,2,4-triazolyl); 5-tetrazolyl; 2-thiazolyl; 4-thiazolyl; 2-oxazolyl; or 4-oxazolyl; either or both of which may be optionally substituted with R^1;

R^1 is H, halogen, cyano, nitro, CF_3, $Si(alkyl)_3$, straight-chain or branched lower alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, (alkylamino)carbonyloxy, mercapto, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfinyl, heterocyclylsulfinyl, arylsulfinyl, heteroarylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, heterocyclylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, heteroarylsulfonyl, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, alkyaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylsulfonamide, arylsulfonamide, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkylureido, or arylureido;

P^4 is H, linear or branched alkyl, arylalkyl or aryl; and

$R^{2'}$ is H, cyano, CF_3, straight-chain or branched lower alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, alkyaminocarbonyl, [(allylamino)carbonyl] or arylaminocarbonyl.

Claim 2 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein $R^{2'}$ is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxycarbonyl, or (allylamino) carbonyl.

Claim 3 (original): The compound according to Claim 2, wherein $R^{2'}$ is H, U is N and P^4 is H.

Claim 4 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 2-thiophenyl, 2-furanyl, 3-furanyl, 3(4)-imidazolyl, 3-(1,2,4-triazolyl), 5-tetrazolyl, or 2-thiazolyl.

Claim 5 (original): The compound according to Claim 4, wherein Ar^2 is phenyl and Ar^1 is selected from the group consisting of 3-(1,2,4-triazolyl),5-tetrazolyl, or 2-thiazolyl and U is N and P^4 is H:.

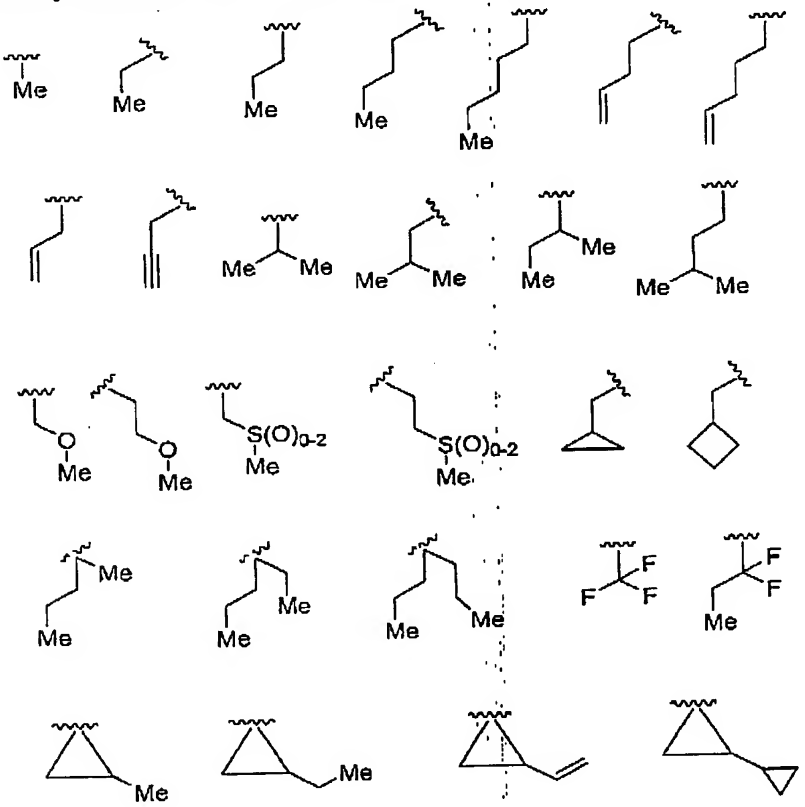
Claim 6 (original): The compound according to Claim 1 or claim 4, wherein R^1 is H, CF_3, CH_3, alkyl or alkenyl.

Claim 7 (original): The compound according to Claim 4, wherein R^1 is H, CF_3, CH_3, alkyl or alkenyl.

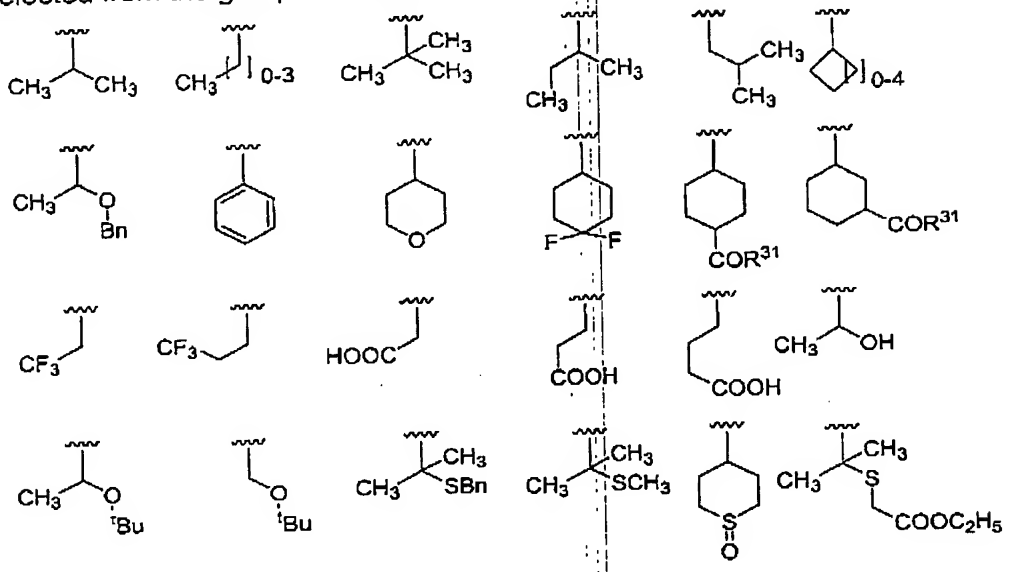
Claim 8 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein $P1'$ is H or CH_3.

Claim 9 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein $P^{1'}$ is H such that $P^{1'}$ and the adjacent nitrogen and carbonyl moieties correspond to the residuum of a glycine unit.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of Claim 4, wherein P^{1a} and P^{1b} are independently selected from the group consisting of the following moieties:

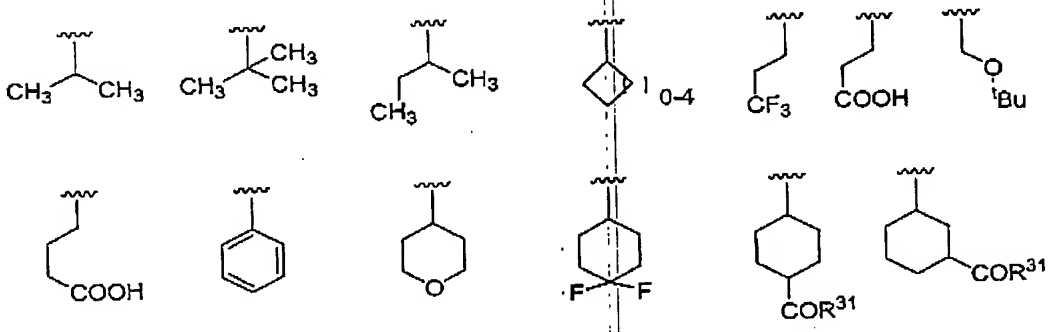


Claim 11 (original): The compound according to Claim 4, wherein P^3 is selected from the group consisting of:



herein R^{31} = OH or O-alkyl.

Claim 12 (original): The compound of Claim 4, wherein P^3 is selected from the group consisting of the following moieties:

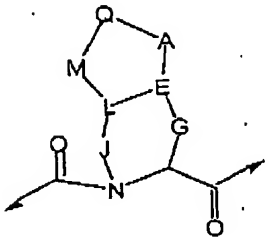


wherein R^{31} = OH or O-Alkyl.

Claim 13 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein P^4 is selected from the group consisting of H, tertiary butyl, isobutyl and phenyl substituents.

Claim 14 (original): The compound according to Claim 11, where Z is NH and U is N.

Claim 15 (original): The compound of Claim 1, wherein the moiety:



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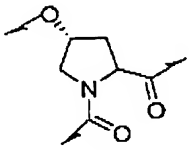

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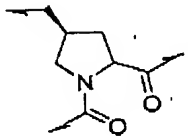
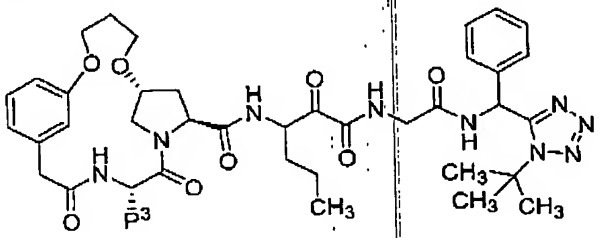
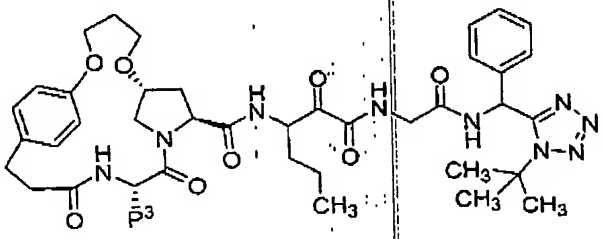


Claim 16 (original): The compound of Claim 15, wherein Z is NH and U is N.

Claim 17 (original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of compounds having the structural formulae:



or



wherein P^3 is an isopropyl, tertiary butyl, cyclopentyl, or cyclohexyl moiety.

Claim 18 (presently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 19: (cancelled).

Claim 20: (cancelled).

Claim 21 (presently amended): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 18 [20], additionally containing an antiviral agent.

Claim 22 (presently amended): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 21, [still] additionally containing an interferon.

Claim 23 (original): The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 22, wherein said antiviral agent is ribavirin and said interferon is α-interferon.